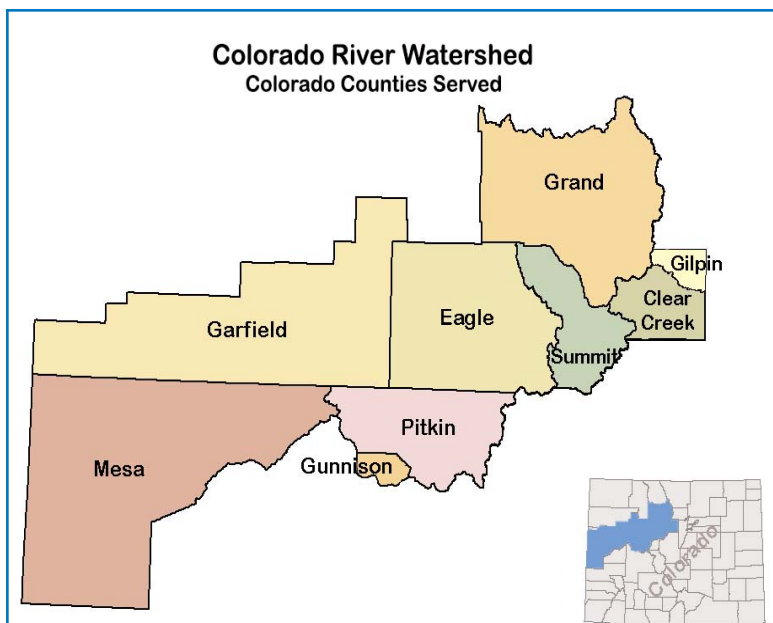


Colorado River Watershed

What is a Watershed? A watershed is the land that water flows across or under on its way to a stream, river, or lake. Everyone lives in a watershed. You and everyone in your watershed are part of the watershed community.

Colorado Watershed Approach: Instead of the traditional statewide approach in addressing priority resource issues like soil erosion, water quality, grazing lands, wildlife, and animal waste, NRCS looks to Colorado's ten watersheds to identify their particular local resource needs and priorities. Watershed work groups meet annually to determine which natural resource concerns are most prevalent in their communities. In turn, Colorado NRCS focuses its resources on addressing those concerns. Colorado's local conservation districts provide leadership in this effort to foster increased decision making at the local level.

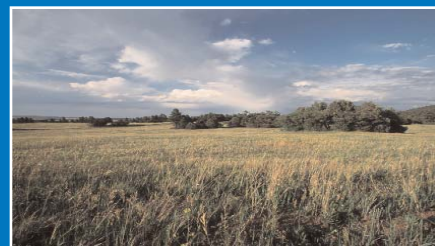


7,097,000 Acres

Land Use	Acres
Irrigated Cropland	230,000
Non-Irrigated Cropland	13,000
Rangeland	1,100,000
Irrigated Hay & Pasture	6,000
Non-Irrigated Hay & Pasture	5,000
Forest Land	423,000
Urban	120,000
Conservation Reserve Program	3,727
Federal Lands	5,200,000



Resources at Work in the Colorado River Watershed



The Grassland Reserve Program (GRP) is a voluntary program that helps landowners restore and protect grasslands, including rangeland and pastureland, while maintaining the areas as grazing lands. It emphasizes support for grazing operations, plant and animal biodiversity, and grassland under the greatest threat of conversion.

FY 2004 GRP Statewide Activity

Applications Received353
 Applications Contracted7
 Dollars Approved \$2,250,000
 Acres Under Contract9,066

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a voluntary program that encourages creation of high quality wildlife habitats that support wildlife populations of National, State, Tribal, and local significance. Through WHIP, NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to landowners and others to develop upland, wetland, riparian, and aquatic habitat areas on their property.



FY 2004 WHIP Activities

Number of Applications Received	4
Number of Applications Contracted	1
Dollar Amount Approved	\$9,159
Acres Under Contract	.363

The Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP) is a voluntary program that helps farmers and ranchers keep their land in agriculture. It provides matching funds to State, Tribal, or local governments and non-governmental organizations with existing farmland protection programs to purchase conservation easements or other interests in land.

FY 2004 FRPP Activities

Entity	County	Type	Acres	Federal Share
Mesa Land Trust	Mesa	Orchard	100	\$457,000
Mesa Land Trust	Mesa	Arnett	118	\$300,000
Total			218	\$757,000

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) was reauthorized in the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill) to provide a voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality. EQIP provides financial and technical help to assist eligible participants install or implement structural and management conservation practices on eligible agricultural land. EQIP may cost share up to 75 percent of the costs of certain conservation practices.

FY 2004 EQIP Contract Funding in the Colorado River Watershed

Natural Resource Concerns	Applications Received	Applications Contracted	\$ Amount Approved
Water Quality	100	42	\$845,084
Grassland	10	1	\$16,000
Wildlife	8	1	\$10,000
Riparian	7	1	\$49,950
Salinity-Grand Junction	82	49	\$1,400,181
Salinity - Wildlife	5	4	\$58,836
Total	212	98	\$2,380,951